APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/157,018	09/18/1998	BENJAMIN KILGORE	MS-80	1865

27662	7590	01/02/2004		

LYON & HARR, LLP
300 ESPLANADE DRIVE, SUITE 800
OXNARD, CA 93036

EXAMINER
LUU, SY D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2174	_29_

DATE MAILED: 01/02/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspond nce address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will
  be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this
  communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>17 October 2003</u> .

2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☐ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) <u>1-34</u> is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) <u>1-34</u> is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.

12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been:

1. ☐ received.

2. ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code / Serial Number) _____ .

3. ☐ received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. & 119(e).

Attachment(s)

15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .

16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

17) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .   20) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This communication is responsive to Amendment G, filed 10/17/2003.

2.   Claims 1-34 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 2, 13, 18 and 32 are independent

claims. In the Amendment F, claims 1, 2, 13, 18 and 32 were amended.   This action is made -

Final.

3.   The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found

in a prior Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4.   Claims 1-12 and 19-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Geller et al. ("Geller", US # 5,844,554) in view of Maggioncalda et al. ("Maggioncalda", US

5,918,217).   1, 10, 14, and 26-27, 2-5,

As per claims 1, 10, and 26 Geller teaches a method for dynamically displaying data

values on a client computer (fig. 2; col. 7, lines 47-50; *client 12*), comprising:

receiving transmitted results, sub-items associated with the results, and rules of

enforcement of sub-item combinations in a predefined format through a communications

interface, wherein the communications interface is the Internet (col. 8, lines 9-17), in response to

a request from the client (col. 8, lines 39-50);

processing the results in real time using the client computer in response to user

adjustment of the results and the sub-item configuration on the client computer, displaying a first

set of results, and <u>dynamically displaying</u> the processed results on a client display device (col. 8,

lines 57-65); and

 <u>preventing</u> a user from creating and encountering sub-item conflicts using the transmitted

rules of enforcement containing all potential configurable conflicts between sub-items, and the

rules of enforcement for sub-item combination to be processed in the background (col. 3, lines

21-39; col. 11, lines 3-11).

Geller does not teach the step of transmitting the request for information based on user-

defined criteria from the client computer such that transmitted results are narrowed, limited and

targeted to the information. This is what Maggioncalda teaches (col. 18, lines 3-52). Geller's

system appears to mainly operate from a standalone computer after the configuration software

and all required data values have been downloaded onto the computer, thus does not require

accessing the server (col. 7, line 40 et seq.). However, Maggioncalda's method allows the

application to operate on either a standalone or a client/server platform (col. 6, lines 15-21).

Thus, it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include the option

for client/server platform as taught by Maggioncalda with the method Geller's in order to

provide more flexibility in the implementation of the method for dynamically display data values

on the client computer, as well as to optimize the time and bandwidth in carrying out the data

transmission.

Claims 2 is similar in scope to claim 1, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

As per claims 3-4, Geller further discloses the adjustable interface tools to comprise

input boxes for adjusting criteria of associated criteria in real time as well as the interface tools

being controls in a dialog box (figs. 6-7).

As per claim 5, Geller teaches the interface tools to include dynamically coupled check boxes so that designated check boxes dynamically change as a user configures conflicting interface tools constrained by the logical rules of enforcement (col. 11, lines 3-11; col. 15, lines 39-51; col. 17, lines 10-29).

As per claim 6, Geller discloses the GUI to have at least one graphical control for allowing the user to dynamically adjust the results and associated sub-items (fig. 7; col. 10, lines 33-36; *e.g. radio buttons and check boxes*).

As per claim 7, Geller teaches the data values to comprise pricing data for at least one object, and the associated sub-items comprise user selectable options for the objects (figs. 6-7).

As per claims 8-9, Geller teaches the interface tools to include: at least one previously selected sub-items are automatically deselected when a user selects a new sub-item which conflicts with the at least one previously selected sub-items; and at least one additional sub-items to be automatically selected when a user selects a sub-item which requires selection of the at least one additional sub-items (figs 6-7; col. 11, lines 3-11; col. 15, lines 39-50; col. 17, lines 10-29; col. 4, lines 38-67; *deselection of an item occurs inherently when another sub-item of the same option is selected, e.g. if sub-item "Standard" under option "SuspensionOptions" is currently selected, it would be deselected if sub-item "Trailer Towing Package" is subsequently selected*).

As per claim 11, Geller teaches remote processing of the results and associated sub-items to continue in response to user interaction with the results and associated sub-items on the client display device after the communications interface between the server and the client has been terminated (col. 8, lines 57-67).

As per claim 12, Geller teaches the GUI to have at least one graphical control for allowing the user to dynamically adjust the displayed data and sub-items (fig. 7; *e.g. radio buttons and check boxes*).

As per claim 19, Geller teaches the steps of receiving and using a transmitted control module to process the results in real time (col. 8, lines 57-67).

Claims 20-21, 23 and 25 are similar in scope to claims 6-7, 8 and 11 respectively, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

As per claims 22, 24 and 28-30, Geller does not explicitly disclose: (a) a warning message to be automatically displayed when a user selects a sub-item which conflicts with at least one of the sub-items already selected by the user, and a message to be automatically displayed on the client display prompting the user to select between conflicting sub-items when the user selects a sub-item that conflicts with a previously selected sub-item; and (b) the interface tools to include: input boxes that are dynamically coupled such that the input boxes dynamically change as a user adjust the associated criteria; display markers as indicia of potential sub-item conflicts; and dynamically activated dialog boxes for displaying potential sub-item conflicts, providing suggestions to resolve the conflicts and providing user interaction to resolve the conflicts. However, Official Notice is taken that these expected features are notoriously well known in the art and would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to be included in the interface tools of Geller in order to aid and visually facilitate user interaction with a constrained set of decision variables.

As per claim 27, Geller teaches a control module stored on the server, wherein the control module is transmitted from the server to a remote client in response to a request by the client,

wherein the adjustable interface option displayed on the client is adapted to communicate with

the control module, and wherein the control module facilitates the adjustment by the remote

client of the associated criteria confined within the transmitted rules of enforcement that causes

the dynamic output to change in real time (col. 8, lines 33 et seq.).

5.   Claims 13-18 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Geller et al. ("Geller", US # 5,844,554) in view of Contois (US 5,864,868).

        Claims 13 is similar in scope to claim 1, in that all claims involve: a client requesting for

data values to be transmitted from a server (fig. 2; *server 15*) performing a database query; and

specific dynamic output results derived from the data values as a result of user adjustments in

real time via an user interface in the client.   However, claim 13 does not require the step of

transmitting a request for information based on user-defined criteria from the client computer

such that transmitted results are narrowed, limited and targeted to the information.   Claim 13

further indicates that the data values are pricing data (col. 4, lines 15-19).   Geller does not

disclose the step of automatically correcting any conflicts to prevent the conflicts from being

displayed and viewed by the user during the user interaction.   However, such a feature is well

known in the art.   For instance, Contois teaches a user interface for allowing a user access to

information stored in a database, wherein conflicting and unrelated information are automatically

and adaptively being prevented from displaying and viewing (col. 10, lines 28-36).   It would

have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include such a feature as taught by

Contois with Geller in order to simplify and facilitate user choices for selection.

As per claim 14, Geller teaches the rules for selection and combination of the associated options automatically prevent user selection or combination of incompatible or conflicting options (col. 3, lines 21-39; col. 11, lines 3-11).

As per claim 15, Geller teaches the interface tools to include the pricing data and associated options are dynamically updated and displayed on the client display device in response to user interaction with the pricing data and associated options (figs 6-7; col. 11, lines 3-11; col. 15, lines 39-50; col. 17, lines 10-29; col. 4, lines 38-67; *deselection of an item occurs inherently when another sub-item of the same option is selected, e.g. if sub-item "Standard" under option "SuspensionOptions" is currently selected, it would be deselected if sub-item "Trailer Towing Package" is subsequently selected*).

Claims 16-17 are similar in scope to claims 8-9 respectively, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 18 is similar in scope to claim 13, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale as claim 1.

Claim 31 is similar in scope to claim 15, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

6.   Claims 32-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Geller et al. ("Geller", US # 5,844,554) in view of Maggioncalda et al. ("Maggioncalda", US 5,918,217) and Contois (US 5,864,868).

Claim 32 is similar in scope to the combination of claims 9 and 13, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 33-34 are similar in scope to claim 19, and are therefore rejected under similar

rationale.

Response to Arguments

7.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 2, 13, 18 and 32 have been considered

but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

8.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this

Office action.   Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.**   See MPEP § 706.07(a).

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action.   In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action.   In no event,

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this

final action.

9.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's

disclosure.

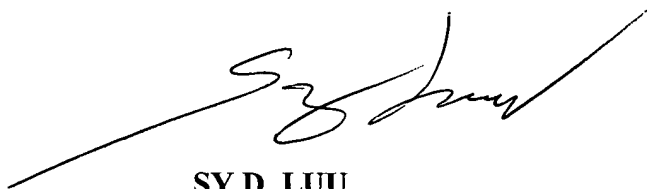Christeson et al. (US 5,926,817)   Hanzek (US 6,654,726 B1)

Inquires

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sy Luu whose telephone number is **(703) 305-0409**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday from 7:00 am to 4:30 pm (EST). The examiner can also be reached on alternate Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid, can be reached on (703) 308-0640.

The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

SY D. LUU
PRIMARY EXAMINER